

NEWS RELEASE

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Three Quincy Men Charged with Conspiracy to Distribute Crack Cocaine

Springfield, IL - Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that a federal grand jury has returned an indictment charging three Quincy, Illinois men with conspiring to distribute crack cocaine. Those charged are: Joseph D. Ball, 24; Archie Lamont Butler, 28; and, Dyrece T. Knaff, 28, all of Quincy.

The indictment alleges that the three men conspired to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine from September 2005 until November 2005. In addition to the charge of conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, each of the three defendants also faces one additional count related to distribution of crack cocaine: Ball is charged with one count of distribution of five or more grams of crack cocaine on October 14, 2005; Butler is charged with distribution of five or more grams of crack cocaine on October 21, 2005; and, Knaff is charged with possession with intent to distribute five or more grams of crack cocaine on November 15, 2005.

If convicted, and if five or more grams of crack is involved in the offense, each defendant faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years to 40 years imprisonment; if previously convicted of a felony drug offense, the mandatory minimum sentence is 10 years to life imprisonment.

The charges are the result of an investigation by the West Central Illinois Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Patricia A. McInerney.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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